com / Telephone Advisory Committees have been reconstituted for Gujarat State, Bhuj and Bulsar Telephone Districts.

Telephone Advisory Committee for the following Telecom. Districts in Gujarat are in the process of being reconstituted :

1. Bhavnagar
2. Jam Nagar
3. Junagarh
4. Mehsana
5. Nadiad
6. Surat
7. Vadodara
8. Ahmedabad
9. Rajkot

(c) and (d) Representation from various local bodies and Publicmen including the recommendations of M.P.'s and M.L.A.'s are taken into account by the Minister of State for Communications before TZCs are constituted / reconstituted.

Distribution of Postal Stationery

849. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to allow the private sector to get into the distribution of postal stationery;

(b) whether Government have also granted official status to the Rs. 500 crore courier industry;

(c) what is the total revenue earned from the Speed Post Service during the financial year 1993-94;

(d) what are the expansion plans in respect of Speed Post Service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) A scheme of licensed postal agents already exists.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Total revenue earned during the year 1993-94 is Rs. 50,12,78,624/-.

(d) The expansion of Speed Post Service is an on being process and the service is provided on the potential viability and operational feasibility.

Satellite telecom system by NRI Group

850. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any NRI group has sought permission to set up a satellite communication network system in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s. Matrix Paging (I) Pvt. Ltd. which is promoted by a group of NRIs has applied for a licence to operate 64 kbps VSAT service within the country using INSAT Satellite in the extended C-band. The Company has been issued a Letter of Intent. This is as per the Government policy to franchise 64 kbps VATS Service on INSAT on a non-exclusive basis to Indian registered Companies.

Shortage of post cards

851. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINNDE:

SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that post cards are in short supply so much so